

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In the Final Office Action, claims 1-16 were pending, claim 17 was withdrawn, claims 1, 2, 5-8 and 10-16 were rejected and claims 3, 4 and 9 were objected to. In this response, claims 1, 9, and 10 have been amended. Claims 2-3, 5-8, and 11-17 have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1, 4, 9, and 10 are presented for examination.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the careful examination, and for finding claims 3, 4, and 9 allowable.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitation of claim 3, which was found allowable. Applicants have similarly amended claim 9, which was found allowable, to be in independent format. Applicants have also amended claim 10 to incorporate the limitations of claim 3, which were found allowable. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims correspond to those that were held to be allowable by the Examiner.

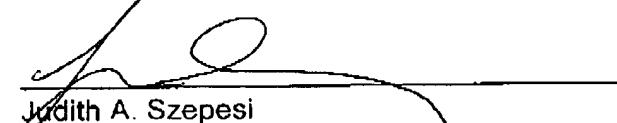
Applicant respectfully submits that in view of the amendments and discussion set forth herein, the applicable rejections have been overcome. Accordingly, the present and amended claims should be found to be in condition for allowance.

If a telephone interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Judith Szepesi at (408) 720-8300.

If there are any additional charges/credits, please charge/credit our deposit
account no. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Dated: December 22, 2006



Judith A. Szepesi
Reg. No. 39,393

Customer No. 08791
12400 Wilshire Blvd.
Seventh Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90025
(408) 720-8300